

Secretary of State Jason Kander

Election Review

April 25, 2013

Voting Participation Center - Failure to Transmit Voter Registration Cards

Background

In March, the Secretary of State's office received a letter from counsel for the Voter Participation Center ("VPC") notifying the office of VPC's failure to transmit 169 Missouri voter registration applications to local election authorities during the 2011-2012 election cycle. The office forwarded these applications to the relevant jurisdictions.

The Secretary of State's office replied to VPC's counsel that, based on the facts contained in the initial letter, it appeared that VPC may have violated Section 115.203, RSMo, which requires that

individuals or organizations that accept or receive voter registration applications to facilitate voter registration must deliver those applications to the proper election authority within seven days of accepting or receiving the applications.

VPC's counsel, by letter, then informed the Secretary of State's office that the organization was internally investigating its failure to transmit Missouri voter registration applications to the appropriate election authorities to ensure that no such errors occur in the future.

Findings

The Secretary of State's office sent legal referral letters to the prosecuting attorneys in twenty four counties in which the local election authority was a recipient of the late voter registration applications transmitted by the VPC. The referral letter informed each prosecuting attorney of the

Voter Participation Center's potential violation of Missouri election law and encouraged the prosecuting attorney to take any action that he or she deemed appropriate. The referrals were sent to each prosecutor on April 10, 2013.